

NCNA HEADS AND TALES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

MOTTO— TO PROMOTE AND TO SERVE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATICS

"Twenty-Sixth Issue"

July 1987

Volume VII Number 3

Editor

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1987 NCNA OFFICERS

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DEADLINE FOR TWENTY-SEVENTH ISSUE September 30

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THE MINT DIRECTOR'S PRONOUNCEMENTS: President's Message

Dear Members,

Who reads this President's Message? The President probably if he proofreads it. The Editor who retypes it. Who else? You, hopefully!

Does your President have anything to say, that is worth reading?

These are many issues to consider. For one who has enjoyed the hobby for over thirty years and watched it go up-and-down like an yo-yo. Become popular and then recede like a river heading back for its banks after a flood. Watched dealers and collectors rush foolhardy toward one thing one month and then flip-flop to another in the following month. Observed the Federal Government jealously jump into the retail market when they see coin dealers raking in the profits. Even survived the attempt of legislation outlawing the sale of any coin for more than its face value and the effort to require reporting and holding of coins until after purchase. Its been a ball!

Not dull!

The two most recent happenings evolve around the 'grading' of coins versus the 'drop' in the market. Since the coin dealers are reluctant to let the market show a recession or drop in the value of coins--feeling that they could lose the investor--instead they concocted a gimmick whereby they simply reduced the grading system, which literally dropped the bottom out of those coins previously graded in a higher condition.

It would certainly seem that the coin dealers have shot themselves in the foot!

The normal stock market can go up one day and drop dramatically the next. The investors survive it. There is no rigging of the stock package to indicate it did not really go down, just the way it was calculated.

Coin collectors are not stupid, and it takes a lot of fortitude to stick to a hobby where such machinations go on. They may drop to the sidelines for a spell until the 'dealers' come to their senses, but they will be there long after the dealers are gone.

Speaking of 'gone', many of this nation's grassroots coin clubs have closed down and moved either into baseball cards or toy train collecting. This, in the main, was because many of these coin clubs ceased educating and began profiteering. NCNA enjoys a Non-Profit Educational standing with the IRS. We have always made an effort to 'show 'n tell' or 'exhibit' for the benefit of our youth and those among us who seek to learn first. True, we do encourage dealers to participate in this endeavor, but the quality of our Bourse is such as to invite those who visit our dealers truly become exposed to a

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THE MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

My Friends,

Recently, I drove to and visited the Delta Coin Club in Stockton. As I came back traveling on Highway 12, the long drive freeing my mind to wander, the question crossed: "Why Do I Collect?". What compelled me to become a coin hobbyist and to be an active participant in this hobby.

Candidly, I cannot give a reason. I am sure it is some psychological quack in my mind. There seems simply no particular reason or factor--it just developed and progressed.

Jokingly, when I go visit my safe deposit boxes, I joke with the good-nature attendants that as a child my favorite comic book character was Donald Duck's rich old Uncle, Scrooge McDuck, who had this huge, I mean big, money bin filled with coins, no currency, and that my goal is to have the same.

Honestly, I am sure some psychologist could derive something from my admission.

Seriously, "Why Do I Collect?" is really the wrong question my wandering mind came across somewhere in the Rio Vista Hills on Highway 12. The correct question should be: "Why Do I Enjoy It?".

Obviously, if I did not enjoy it, the coin hobby that is, I would have not kept at it. Something in it continues to compel me into and further into this hobby.

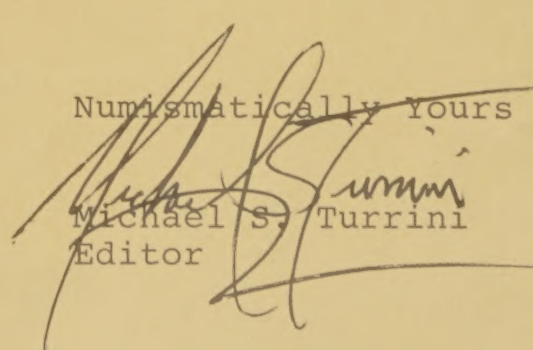
Clearly, it is the knowledge learned, the happiness gained, and the fellowship shared that is the fuel. Everything and anything in numismatics fascinates me. All is open to collecting or studying or interest. Anything can spark. The friends are an invaluable measure to my life. The knowledge of so much learned are an incalculable increase to my mind, and the social diversion are an escape from the mundane routine of living.

Closing, maybe I cannot answer adequately my own question, or the answer is blowing the winds over the Rio Vista Hills. Maybe an answer is not required. Like the mountain climber, it is simply there, and I have chosen, for whatever deep or simple reason, to learn, to enjoy, and to share numismatics.

Hopefully in the process making my life and others much better. That is it all.

Best Wishes.

Numismatically Yours


Michael S. Turrini
Editor

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GOLD MINER DIGGINGS: NCNA News and Happenings

1987 Coin Show and Exposition

Please refer to the enclosed Numismatic Fact Sheet for an itemized list of this year's Coin Show and Exposition's details. Note that the location remains as usual at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness and Geary, San Francisco.

Also enclosed is an Exhibit Application. NCNA is well-known for the quality of its fine exhibit awards, and all NCNAers are encouraged to exhibit and to share their numismatic joys.

The Bourse is fast filling-up and any interested coin dealer is requested to contact Ron Miller, Bourse Coordinator, promptly.

As this Issue goes to press, no Schedule and times have been finalized for the Educational Speakers; however, confirmed to speak are:

G. Lee Kuntz, "To Sink A Die", Friday, the 2nd
"United States Half Cents", Saturday, the 3rd
Ron Kelichner, "Breweriana", Saturday, 3rd
Hans Hansson, "Swedish Coinage", Sunday, 4th
Mike Stanley, "Newspaper: Headlines and Fun", Sunday, 4th

It is anticipated that one or two local California coin hobbyists may be added to the Speaker's Schedule.

In brief, summaries of these four confirmed speakers are: G. Lee Kuntz, well-known statewide coin hobby activist and owner of Masterpiece Medallions; Ron Kelichner, Past President of the Fairfield Coin Club, active involved collector of numerous items, and current Quality Assurance Manager at Fairfield's Anheuser-Busch Brewery; Hans Hansson, current President of the San Francisco Coin Club, frequent speaker at local coin clubs on Swedish Coinage, and dedicated stamp hobbyist, and Mike Stanley, long-time coin hobbyist, former President of the Hawaii State Numismatic Association (HSNA), and frequent exhibitor at local club coin shows.

The direction with this year's Coin Show and Exposition Educational Speakers was to recognize and promote local fellow coin hobbyists by inviting them to address on their choice of topic.

As NCNA Heads and Tales' next Issue, due first part of October, may not be printed nor mailed before the first weekend of October, the dates of the 1987 Coin Show and Exposition, please keep this Issue for reference and look for news articles in the numismatic press.

In addition, there is scheduled an Annual Dinner for Saturday evening, the 3rd; however, no details are known at this time.

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Coin Show List

The latest List of this long-time NCNA service is enclosed. All coin clubs and coin dealers and any coin hobbyist are asked to utilize and to publicize this List.

Coin Clubs, particularly, are strongly urged to refer to this List, coordinate their activities with it, and publicize the List.

All Coin Clubs please keep both Ed Sins, List Coordinator, and your Editor promptly informed as to your group's Coin Show. Write as soon as the days are confirmed, even if it is a year or more in advance.

Board of Directors Meetings

The next two 1987 Board of Directors Meetings are:

August 16th
November 24th

As usual, both dates are Sundays with Meetings starting at 1:30pm within the Cathedral Hill Hotel (room location varies), Van Ness and Geary, San Francisco. As usual, a plea is made for each NCNA Club Member to send a voting Club Delegate.

There is some talk of holding additional Meetings in July and September in lieu of the August 16th Meeting; however, this is solely discussion and nothing has been arranged nor finalized.

1987 Election

In late August or early September, ballots will be mailed. Please vote.

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COIN SHOW AND EXPOSITION



OCTOBER 1, 2, 3, & 4

Daily 10:00 AM To 8:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM To 4:00 PM



CATHEDRAL HILL 'JACK TAR' HOTEL

Van Ness and Geary, San Francisco

Four Full Days - **FREE ADMISSION** - Open To The Public

100+ COIN DEALERS — AUCTION — SPEAKERS

EXHIBITS — DRAWINGS — YOUTH PROGRAM

AND MORE

Something For Both Investors and Collectors!

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BRANCH MINT REPORTS: Club Happenings

Have been receiving bulletins, newsletters, or news releases from these Coin Clubs:

Delta Coin Club
Peninsula Coin Club
Fresno Numismatic Society
Napa Valley Coin Club
Redwood Empire Coin Club
Sacramento Valley Coin Club
Reno Coin Club
Livermore Valley Coin Club
Bakersfield Coin Club
Solano Silver Round Club
Vallejo Numismatic Society
Fairfield Coin Club
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
San Jose Coin Club
San Francisco Coin Club
Diablo Numismatic Society
Cupertino Coin Club
Fremont Coin Club
Gateway Coin Club

Delta Coin Club Heard DAVID LANGE at its March 13th Meeting present his slide illustrated program on "United States Coinage for the Philippines". At the April 24th Meeting, KEN BARR spoke on United States Currency. The May 8th Meeting was the DCC's Annual Casino Night, always a popular event. SHERIDAN DOWNING presented a slide illustrated talk at the June 26th Meeting on Bust Type Half Dollars. It was reported that long-time DCC member and well-known Bay Area coin dealer GORDON RAMMER has retired and relocated to Sequim, Washington. He was a Past President plus Bourse and Exhibit Coordinator for the DCC and is a Life Member.

Peninsula Coin Club Elected its 1987 Officers at the April Meeting: XAN CHAMBERLAIN, President; FRED VAN DER HAAG, Vice-President, and DON BARSI, Secretary. The PCC's mailing address is: "PO Box 915, Palo Alto, CA, 94302".

Fresno Numismatic Society Had JOHN REYNOLDS present at the May 12th Meeting a "monster" program on the "History and Souvenirs of United States Expositions". The April 14th Meeting had an extensive Show 'n Tell: "Some of the members who brought items to talk about were DENNIS 'Canoe Man' OLSWANG on different Types of Exonumia, RUTH 'Canoe Lady' PHILLIPS on Elongated Cents, PHIL NORDID had a real nice display of Philippine Coinage, JOHN LIGNOS had a display of Canadian Maple Leafs, MERLE DAVIS brought a nice collection of Mercury Dimes, and BILL FEBUARY brought a collection of Peace Dollars in a plastic holder and his favorite, Currency. BILL also brought his 'dog' set of Indian Cents, dog meaning--UGLY". Fresno Numismatist Editor JOHN PETERS noted in

the April Issue: "The more you know about the different areas of numismatics the more fun you will have with the hobby. Numismatics is more than rare coins; it's a hobby of affordable enjoyment". Very True Words.

Napa Valley Coin Club Heard 'Viking' HANS HANSSON at its April 15th Meeting on "Swedish Coinage". April 24th was the date of the NVCC's Second Annual Pot-Luck. May 20th was 'Silver Nite', copying the Vallejo Numismatic Society, which had only silver as various prizes; your Editor showed his slides of the Silver Eagle First Striking Ceremony. Long-time member BOB BINGHAM reviewed and displayed his huge Olympic Pin Collection at the June 17th Meeting. At the same Meeting, STAN TURRINI was awarded the newest Life Membership in the NVCC, a complete surprise.

Redwood Empire Coin Club Has GUY SHAPPY as Coordinator for its now postponed 1987 Coin Show. The RECC has sent only two newsletters these past months, so not much to report.

Sacramento Valley Coin Club Heard well-known Bay Area coin dealer RON MILLER speak on "United States Coins: Quality and Rarity" at its April 22nd Meeting. JERRY CARSMAN, SVCC activist, spoke on 'Grading Controversy' at the May 27th Meeting; it was reported that "as the disussion moved to the various grading services, President BEN GAY provided the 'controversy' as he and JERRY argued the relative merits of ANACS and PCGS. Others joined in and the subject was rather hotly debated until the end of the program. The grading controversy is one which will not be resolved. The topic is just too subjective". Very True. At the June 24th Meeting, STEVE SHOWERS presented his "Ancient Symbols/Modern Coins" which traced the development of some motifs used on ancient coins to their present coinage usage. The SVCC's numismatic study group continues with topics as Early Mint History, Coins With Nicknames, John Reich Coinage, and Gobrecht Liberty Seated Design.

Reno Coin Club Heard fellow member BOB MATHIS talk at its April 7th Meeting on "Gold and Silver Markings" which RCC Secretary JUNE BLACK reported "many long-time members said that this was perhaps the most informative program yet given at an RCC Meeting". The May 5th Meeting had ROY PETERSON reviewing and lecturing on "Enjoying The Auction Action", advising and informing on mail bid and floor auctions. At all RCC Meetings, all members are requested to wear nametags or be fined "the horrendous sum of 25 cents". The fine "is certainly not designed to enhance our Treasury but is a rather simple and somewhat fun way of reminding everyone that the wearing of the nametags is of help to long time members and newcomers alike".

Livermore Valley Coin Club Received only one newsletter from this Coin Club. RA BROWN--"the Club's most tireless promoter of numismatics as a hobby"--installed an exhibit at the Livermore Public Library during the recent April 1987 National Coin Week.

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Bakersfield Coin Club Has sent two of its recent newsletters. Exhibit winners at the April 1987 BCC Coin Show were: ALAN STARK, Best of Show; KEN FEER, First Place Senior; MATT PICKING, First Place Junior; JIM PLEDGER, Second Place Senior; MARK PICKING, Second Place Junior; DICK THATCHER, Third Place Senior, and MATT PICKING, Third Place Junior. The 1988 Coin Show will be on March 12th and 13th. BCC President DICK THATCHER has appointed GLEN OSBURN the 1988 Coin Show's General Chairman.

Solano Silver Round Club Remains active, if small. The 1987 Officers are: STAN TURRINI, President; HAROLD SALAS, Vice-President; MARIE WILLIAMS, Treasurer, and MOSES REIS, Secretary. The second SSRC silver round is planned for 1988, the Fifth Anniversary of this Club, 1983-1988.

Vallejo Numismatic Society The VNS' long-time newsletter, The Bulletin, went defunct with the April Issue. The 1988 16th Annual Vallejo Coin Show is scheduled for April 24th at the same location in Dan Foley Cultural Center. Bronze medals honoring the Society's 400th Consecutive Meeting, this past July 1st, are available via the mail at \$2.00 postpaid. Orders direct to: "Mike Stanley, VNS Medals, 2107 Gill Drive, Concord, CA, 94520".

Fairfield Coin Club Heard KARL MANTHEI, current Diablo Numismatic Society President, talk on "Coin Boards", also called Premium Boards, at its April 22nd Meeting. His talk included an extensive display of his renowned collection. May 27th was the date for the FCC's Annual May Pot-Luck which was a success with good food, great prizes, and a fine program having MIKE STANLEY speaking and displaying much of his famous Newspaper Collection. Again reported, the major succes of the FCC, which is neither a large or rich Coin Club, is the repeated and consistent high quality of its regular meeting drawings; always top prizes and at no cost to the Club's Treasury. The FCC Raffles, as well as the Vallejo Numismatic Society's, are self-supporting with all monies taken in being put into future prizes.

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society Heard two fine speakers: April 29th, renowned O.L. WALLIS, "Medallic Tributes to Admiral George Dewey" and May 27th, JIM ROSEN, "Cleaning and Preserving Coins". A few PCNS bronze commemorative 800th Meeting Medals remain available via the mail at \$4.00 postpaid. Order direct to: "Don Thrall, PCNS Treasurer, 610 Arlington, Berkeley, CA, 94707".

San Jose Coin Club Its Editor ED SINS kindly sent recent back Issues; your Editor has not been receiving the newsletter, nor his own member copy. The 1987 SJCC Officers are: TIM ARCHER, President; RON MILLER, Vice-President; JENI JOHNSON, Junior Vice-President; MARTHA SANFORD, Recording Secretary; SALLY JOHNSON, Corresponding Secretary, and WALLY WALLAKER, Treasurer. Recent SJCC Meeting activities have been: LARRY BENSON, March 18th, "Washington Quarters"; May 20th, "Annual Coin Bee", and June 17th, "Special Auction". It was reported in the May newsletter that "JEAN

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PRITCHETT inducted into the San Jose Coin Club Hall of Fame: At the recently held San Jose Coin Club Banquet on April 25th, JEAN PRITCHETT was inducted into the Club's Hall of Fame. JEAN had served the Club as an officer, Medals Co-Chairman, and Publicity Chairman for almost twenty years. JEAN joins RUDY GJUROVICH, AL MANDELL, DON PRITCHETT, CHARLES KAPPEN, and DENIS HOOKER in that most distinguished group".

San Francisoc Coin Club Has heard three fine speakers recently: April 28th, O.L. WALLIS, "Charles Lindberg"; May 26th, MIKE McCOY, "Early American Coppers", and June 23rd, PAUL HOLTZMAN, "The Trails, Tribulations, and Triumphs of a Numismatic Bird Watcher". The SFCC and the Alameda Coin Club are co-sponsoring and 'The Greater Bay Area Coin Show' this September 13th in the Hyatt Hotel at the Oakland Airport. Bourse is being coordinated by "STEVE SEELIG, PO Box 12085, San Francisco, CA, 94112; (415) 586-1335".

Diablo Numismatic Society Regrets that its young and gifted Editor DAVID PARRISH must resign his writing of the Diablo Die Break. A recent DNS Meeting had GEORGE TYSON, April 16th, show slides on various United States and Foreign Coinage. The DNS contributed the Lafayette (City) Constitutional Bicentennial Fair with an exhibit by members, MIKE STANLY, KARL and SUE MANTHEI, DALE BRYANT, and KARL HUER.

Cupertino Coin Club Reports that last March 27th one of its Founding Members and honored Life Member RAY ERKSON passed away. RAY was CCC's Treasurer for most of the Club's past seventeen years, having retired only last year from this position. As AL LO, CCC's Coin Press Editor, noted: "He was very active in the Club and always lent a helping hand when needed. I will always remember RAY as my mentor and friend who kept me out of trouble with his wise advice and by doing things that I had forgotten to do. We will all miss you, Ray. You will always be Remembered". The 1987 CCC Officers are: AL LO, President; KEN BARR, Vice-President; RONDA JOHNSON, Youth Vice-President; WALT MERTENS, Corresponding Secretary, and RON ISHIZAKI, Treasurer. May 1st Meeting was the CCC's Annual Other Hobbies Night: DAVID THERRELL, Carved Wooden Statues; KELLY CAROLAN, Christmas Tree Decorations; TOMMY CAROLAN, Elongated Cents; DON BARSII, Caps; KEN BARR, Baseball Cards; MICHAEL BAER, Piano Solo; KEITH WANDRY, Old Baseball Gloves, and DAN SHATTUC, Duck Hunting.

Fremont Coin Club Heard JIM HART of Sacramento at the May 12th Meeting on "Tokens". His talk was "a wide-ranging, interesting, and fun discussion on Tokens of all types including: merchant, transportation, woods, advertising, and telephone tokens. JIM showed that he was well versed on all areas of these topics and also that he was never at a loss for words as he 'wowed 'em' for a solid hour". May 17th was the date for the FCC's Annual Golf Tournament: "Member JERRY GOLZ was the Big Winner of the day as he had the best score and won the 'Closest To The Hole' Prize.

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RON MILLER was Second in the Men's Division. First and Second Place winners in the Women's Division were BRITTA EHLERS and DIANNA MILLER. DON EHLERS won what I call the 'Good Sport Prize' for his 'high' score, which out of courtesy I will not mentioned".

Gateway Coin Club Newsletter Editor is RUN LUND. TOM ANDERSON, GCC's Vice-President, has become its new President with the resignation of DOC EBERT. May 21st Meeting was GCC's 'Dog-Eat-Dog Contest' won by TERRY WOODWARD. To attract both old and new members, the GCC held at its May 7th Meeting an 'Old Timers Reunion Night' with a free special drawing plus a big auction. Newsletters were sent to all known former members. A Nice Idea.

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bevy of purveyors who know their trade, are willing to explain it, and whet the appetite of the collector who can and do appreciate superlative coin shows.

Memberships in coin clubs while remaining somewhat static, continues to survive and await the next surge and desire to 'know'. In that vein, NCNA, the ANA, and others will always be there, sustained by their membership, to be ready when you conclude--if you do not already belong--that this is truly FOR YOU!!

Our coin fraternity is a good as you make it--it takes all of us--let this President encourage you to 'lend-a-hand' and it will come back to you many fold.

Thanks for reading. If you agree or do not, let us know; that is part of participating.

Thanks very much.

Very Truly Yours,

Denis N. Hooker
President

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